R Herman

Tape Transcript M2582 00' Summer Barn Lunch w/piano on Side 2
2001 6/8/75

Don't think because the three of us are sitting at this table that we have something very fundamental to announce. Things are as usual and maybe you can attribute it to the scarcity of Gemini --not enough Birthdays--There are certain signs, I think, that are not compatible with work on oneself. (laughter) So Robert suggested he would act like a Gemini, so look at him and see if he does it. Of course it is interesting that you have many differet people, of different kinds and different backgrounds, and there is such an opportunity being held together by a group really to profit by the experiences of someone else. And when we talk about cooperation and talking with each other and finding out what the other person is doing, you can gain a great deal because it will enlarge your world. You remember there are three different periods that we talk about, and an observation process and then a participation, that is as it were, coming down to earth, and to see what can be done in the presence of something of a higher nature. And the third one we call experiment. Experiment simply means that I try to have certain experiences which are not usual to me, although they are available to me in accordance with the characteristics of my personality. I don't have to twist myself around too much to experiment. I utilize what is available for me and many times the things that are available to me I have not used very much so it is useful to put them into action. And in that way I will enlarge my world. It is within my capacity; it is within the framework. It is different from the particular period which comes afterward which we call intentional suffering and conscious labor. Those are the things one creates which are not natural and which then, knowing that they are going to rub you the wrong way, or will create difficulties, that you create them for a very definite purpose to help you to grow up by means of this intentional suffering that will follow. Experimentation is still within our natural framework. Only the fact remains that we don't really experience enough for ourselves because, I think, at an early age, we already start to close up in having experiences and contacts which we want to continue with if it suits us, and we close up all kinds of possibilities of experiencing something

that is going to upset us or for which we would have to make a little extra- attempt or trouble and we lose interest. And I think that is in the nature of anyone growing up and having contact with the outside world and having friends or enemies, that more and more one tries to eliminate the enemies and increase the friends and with the friends come to the conclusion after some time, that there are only two or three friends which really count and the rest becomes acquaintanceship. I think the tendency and the natural grweth of a person on Earth is that he gradually limits himself in the total number of experiences how wants to take in. In other words he becomes less and less flexible and narrow-minded sometimes and definitely not open enough and he misses a great deal of what might still be of very great value to him. When you have a group of people and you have an aim and you can trust each other up to a certain point, you the will have a chance to have-a- enlarge your world in discussing that what other people are, different types as they are, and receiving different impressions even with the same application of Work itself as a principle. And if one could establish that kind of relationship, of I call it, confidence in each other, wanting to Work together on the basis of both being a tool in the hands of that which you might say is the Barn, using us, for the very definite pupose of the creation of an atmesphere in which people can start to grow and develop. and that you will not run so easily out of material when you have a large enough group where this particular contact can still be made. A group never should be too large. Where the limit is I don't know. It depends many times on your own capacity of how much you want to take in. Sometimes people are gregarious for that reason because they want to take in as much as they

can. Usually when they take in much, the intake is ~~usually~~ ALSO superficial and that's why I say I don't know where the limit is~~,~~ because the quantity and the quality have to count. If there are too many contacts, then the quality is suffering. But if one can reach a certain equilibrium for oneself of a certain amount of intake ~~and~~ AND digesting it so as ~~it~~ to make it of one's own, useful within oneself, useful for one's own development, I think there's a very good chance in a group of people, let's say of a hundred, that you will find several types who can be very useful to yourself, even if you rub each other, every once in a while, the wrong way. You must find that experience useful regarding small groups and they are gradualy getting in the stage where the small groups SHOULD dismantle and they should look for other small groups, ~~,~~other combinations of people~~,~~, because when you keep on having a small group for a certain lenght of time you will become like ingrown toenails. You must not allow that because there constantly has to be something that is a little sharper, a little bit more friction, a little bit of something that you have to overcome and that you want to overcome but ~~that~~ naturally you would shy away from it. You have to, as I said not so long ago, make enemy groups. That, you might say, is the other extreme. But inbetween when you feel that the small group has out lived its usefulness of that small group, simply change it. Discard it, don't continue with it. Make a new group. Each person of such a group, select other people to work with. It will be helpfull, but you see it is necessary to keep on changing things. If you don't do it, you fall asleep in the monotony. You ~~must be~~ MUST constantly being able and willing to make variations, ~~in the~~ to do things a little differently, when you feel it has

outlived the usefullness of the particular placement, that then you rearrange it for yourself to have a new viewpoint or to have new reactions. You cannot live with one friend all your life. You ought to have ten and at a certain period you ought to have ten others. In your development of life you ought ~~to~~ SHOULD be interested in certain things for a certain period and then you should take other interests in another period of your life. You should develop much more all around. ~~The~~ And many times you know we are very narrow-minded. We are only interested in those who strike us or stroke us the right way so that we can purr. We have to have an ability of meeting conditions of life as they are given by Mother Nature and at the present time the conditions of our culture. We have to adapt ourselves to that because one does not know what might happen accidentally. The different things that will happen accidentally are outside our domain of law. We do not arrange for them. They just happen to be because there are other forces much higher than we are which cause conditions on Earth to exist and it is necessary for a man to prepare for eventualities, even if they don't always come about. For instance, if there is an indication of a tornado, you take care that you are not in your house or that you are protected or in some way or other and when afterwards it's over, and perhaps it didn't hit you, then you say, well it was fortunate it didn't, but next time you will do the same thing again to protect yourself if you knew ahead what might be coming. Life means that you protect yourself for all kinds of eventualities of experience and that you really should get used to the possibility of living every once in a while a different kind of life. I think it is useful that you live in light, that you also live in darkness;

that you live with a friend, and also live with an enemy; that you find out your own flexibility; that you may have been educated in certain surroundings and that you should really be interested in living in surroundings which are completely foreign to you . Why is it so useful to go to other countries? Why is it necessary for us to know about different kinds of civilizations? About different reasons why different people lived differently from us? Why should we we stay within our own little domain as if we think this is the non plus ultra of civilization?Of course it isn't. There are hundreds of theusands of people who never have heard ~~of~~ about America. And still, why should we think that we knew it? In the same way if one grows up, there should never be a period in one's own life and development where you think that you know it all, because if you're honest you will know less and less ,but you ~~will~~ do know that you know less and less. That is the advantage, And as long as you remain ~~clearly~~ really interested in your life, it will never become monotonous for yourself, but you have to hunt it up, I say experimentally, It is not going to come to you.It's not going to be fed ~~by Mother Nature~~ on a golden spoon by Mother Nature herself trying to take care of you because we are now in a realm that is not so natural although it is feasible and it is possible. It will arouse in one a very definite wish to continue to find out and you have to stimulate for yourself in your life your desire for research.Don't settle down too soon because you will fall asleep too soon. Keep your aliveness all the time with you as long as God gives it to you.See that it comes out in a variety of different waysso so as to meet different conditions to which you will react differently which will cause you to grow up more because you have

to adapt yourself to something that was not in existence before . Why is it necessary that you create an I? because it creates a condition in your imagination and in reality of an objective faculty which does not belong to Earth and as a result you will be forced to behave differently in the presence of such objectivity. That's the reason of creating it out of this world, not within this world. You don't get out of the horizontality by just chuming around with everything that is already horizontal and never wishes to get away from it. You just shovel it around a little bit in different rearrangements but for yourself, you wish to grow. Then you create something to which you can go. You create your God. By then your ~~Light~~ Life will be attracted by that God simply because you have created him. It has nothing to do with the overall God existing everywhere and always, That is a different concept. You will reach that gradually, ~~bu~~-but you have to understand that in the beginning you need something that you can put your fingers on, as it were; something that comes to you as an entity even if it is not definible, even if you cannot find a word for it. I mentioned today that when the silence descends, it is as something that is as an entity that at that time takes place and we experience it when all of a sudden all sound dies and there is silence in its place, even if that silence has no particular substance as entity , it is felt as something that then exists as before noise and such things existed. This is the concept of God. He comes in that way and in the presence of that, you can not define what it is. And maybe sometimes it looks as if it is an emptiness . At the same time, strange to say, it has a substance., because this

is the principle of infinity, that at any one time the infinity existing in the form of finiteness, that each finiteness goes over, back and forth, into infinity. And this constant exchange is really that ~~which~~ what takes place between mankind as we live our lives and God living his own life in eternity. I hope you can work this afternoon . I hope you can make friends even. I hope you will want to exchange. I hope you will get out of stiffness, out of that ~~which~~ what keeps you tight. Be what you can be and allow yourself to be just a little bit more each time that you make that kind of attempt to go out of your shell. Don't creep back too soon. Just look around and see what it is. You must know. You can always protect yourself. You can always become smaller. You can almost disappear and then you don't have to experience anything anymore when you have reached the state of, yes, how will I say it?...of stuff, just be nothing. And one wants to go the opposite direction, constantly trying to increase the possibilites of growth and really finding finally, becoming, since one says, what is my aim? I may as well build as high as I can visualize and say I, my world, will be the universe, totally. That is ~~th~~ my aim. Drink to Gurdieff.

And so Peter ~~for~~-not being here, don't turn it off, because We will turn it around. Yea. all right. ~~I8~~ I'll play a little piano. The organ is not exactly to my liking. We will try ~~and~~ to fix it and see if we can make it a little bit better, huh Victor? But it is not as yet right, so if you don't mind, ~~I8~~ I'll play piano.

END of SIDE ONE

SIDE TWO: music #2001

Transcribed: Rita Herman
Rough type: R. Herman
1st proof: K. Paras
2nd proof:
3rd proof:
Final type: